

1 program pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) of section
2 504.”.

3 **SEC. 8204. INSECT AND DISEASE INFESTATION.**

4 Title VI of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of
5 2003 (16 U.S.C. 6591 et seq.) is amended by adding at
6 the end the following:

7 **“SEC. 602. DESIGNATION OF TREATMENT AREAS.**

8 “(a) DEFINITION OF DECLINING FOREST
9 HEALTH.—In this section, the term ‘declining forest
10 health’ means a forest that is experiencing—

11 “(1) substantially increased tree mortality due
12 to insect or disease infestation; or

13 “(2) dieback due to infestation or defoliation by
14 insects or disease.

15 “(b) DESIGNATION OF TREATMENT AREAS.—

16 “(1) INITIAL AREAS.—Not later than 60 days
17 after the date of enactment of the Agricultural Act
18 of 2014, the Secretary shall, if requested by the
19 Governor of the State, designate as part of an insect
20 and disease treatment program 1 or more landscape-
21 scale areas, such as subwatersheds (sixth-level hydro-
22 logic units, according to the System of Hydro-
23 logic Unit Codes of the United States Geological
24 Survey), in at least 1 national forest in each State
25 that is experiencing an insect or disease epidemic.

1 “(2) ADDITIONAL AREAS.—After the end of the
2 60-day period described in paragraph (1), the Sec-
3 retary may designate additional landscape-scale
4 areas under this section as needed to address insect
5 or disease threats.

6 “(c) REQUIREMENTS.—To be designated a land-
7 scape-scale area under subsection (b), the area shall be—

8 “(1) experiencing declining forest health, based
9 on annual forest health surveys conducted by the
10 Secretary;

11 “(2) at risk of experiencing substantially in-
12 creased tree mortality over the next 15 years due to
13 insect or disease infestation, based on the most re-
14 cent National Insect and Disease Risk Map pub-
15 lished by the Forest Service; or

16 “(3) in an area in which the risk of hazard
17 trees poses an imminent risk to public infrastruc-
18 ture, health, or safety.

19 “(d) TREATMENT OF AREAS.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may carry
21 out priority projects on Federal land in the areas
22 designated under subsection (b) to reduce the risk or
23 extent of, or increase the resilience to, insect or dis-
24 ease infestation in the areas.

1 “(2) AUTHORITY.—Any project under para-
2 graph (1) for which a public notice to initiate
3 scoping is issued on or before September 30, 2018,
4 may be carried out in accordance with subsections
5 (b), (c), and (d) of section 102, and sections 104,
6 105, and 106.

7 “(3) EFFECT.—Projects carried out under this
8 subsection shall be considered authorized hazardous
9 fuel reduction projects for purposes of the authori-
10 ties described in paragraph (2).

11 “(4) REPORT.—

12 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with
13 the schedule described in subparagraph (B), the
14 Secretary shall issue 2 reports on actions taken
15 to carry out this subsection, including—

16 “(i) an evaluation of the progress to-
17 wards project goals; and

18 “(ii) recommendations for modifica-
19 tions to the projects and management
20 treatments.

21 “(B) SCHEDULE.—The Secretary shall—

22 “(i) not earlier than September 30,
23 2018, issue the initial report under sub-
24 paragraph (A); and

1 “(ii) not earlier than September 30,
2 2024, issue the second report under that
3 subparagraph.

4 “(e) TREE RETENTION.—The Secretary shall carry
5 out projects under subsection (d) in a manner that maxi-
6 mizes the retention of old-growth and large trees, as ap-
7 propriate for the forest type, to the extent that the trees
8 promote stands that are resilient to insects and disease.

9 “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
10 is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
11 \$200,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2024.

12 **“SEC. 603. ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW.**

13 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection
14 (d), a project described in subsection (b) that is conducted
15 in accordance with section 602(d) may be—

16 “(1) considered an action categorically excluded
17 from the requirements of Public Law 91–190 (42
18 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.); and

19 “(2) exempt from the special administrative re-
20 view process under section 105.

21 “(b) COLLABORATIVE RESTORATION PROJECT.—

22 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A project referred to in
23 subsection (a) is a project to carry out forest res-
24 toration treatments that—

1 “(A) maximizes the retention of old-growth
2 and large trees, as appropriate for the forest
3 type, to the extent that the trees promote
4 stands that are resilient to insects and disease;

5 “(B) considers the best available scientific
6 information to maintain or restore the ecologi-
7 cal integrity, including maintaining or restoring
8 structure, function, composition, and
9 connectivity; and

10 “(C) is developed and implemented
11 through a collaborative process that—

12 “(i) includes multiple interested per-
13 sons representing diverse interests; and

14 “(ii)(I) is transparent and nonexclu-
15 sive; or

16 “(II) meets the requirements for a re-
17 source advisory committee under sub-
18 sections (e) through (f) of section 205 of
19 the Secure Rural Schools and Community
20 Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C.
21 7125).

22 “(2) INCLUSION.—A project under this sub-
23 section may carry out part of a proposal that com-
24 plies with the eligibility requirements of the Collabo-
25 rative Forest Landscape Restoration Program under

1 section 4003(b) of the Omnibus Public Land Man-
2 agement Act of 2009 (16 U.S.C. 7303(b)).

3 “(c) LIMITATIONS.—

4 “(1) PROJECT SIZE.—A project under this sec-
5 tion may not exceed 3000 acres.

6 “(2) LOCATION.—A project under this section
7 shall be limited to areas—

8 “(A) in the wildland-urban interface; or

9 “(B) Condition Classes 2 or 3 in Fire Re-
10 gime Groups I, II, or III, outside the wildland-
11 urban interface.

12 “(3) ROADS.—

13 “(A) PERMANENT ROADS.—

14 “(i) PROHIBITION ON ESTABLISH-
15 MENT.—A project under this section shall
16 not include the establishment of permanent
17 roads.

18 “(ii) EXISTING ROADS.—The Sec-
19 retary may carry out necessary mainte-
20 nance and repairs on existing permanent
21 roads for the purposes of this section.

22 “(B) TEMPORARY ROADS.—The Secretary
23 shall decommission any temporary road con-
24 structed under a project under this section not

1 later than 3 years after the date on which the
2 project is completed.

3 “(d) EXCLUSIONS.—This section does not apply to—

4 “(1) a component of the National Wilderness
5 Preservation System;

6 “(2) any Federal land on which, by Act of Con-
7 gress or Presidential proclamation, the removal of
8 vegetation is restricted or prohibited;

9 “(3) a congressionally designated wilderness
10 study area; or

11 “(4) an area in which activities under sub-
12 section (a) would be inconsistent with the applicable
13 land and resource management plan.

14 “(e) FOREST MANAGEMENT PLANS.—All projects
15 and activities carried out under this section shall be con-
16 sistent with the land and resource management plan es-
17 tablished under section 6 of the Forest and Rangeland Re-
18 newable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C.
19 1604) for the unit of the National Forest System con-
20 taining the projects and activities.

21 “(f) PUBLIC NOTICE AND SCOPING.—The Secretary
22 shall conduct public notice and scoping for any project or
23 action proposed in accordance with this section.

24 “(g) ACCOUNTABILITY.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall pre-
2 pare an annual report on the use of categorical ex-
3 clusions under this section that includes a descrip-
4 tion of all acres (or other appropriate unit) treated
5 through projects carried out under this section.

6 “(2) SUBMISSION.—Not later than 1 year after
7 the date of enactment of this section, and each year
8 thereafter, the Secretary shall submit the reports re-
9 quired under paragraph (1) to—

10 “(A) the Committee on Agriculture, Nutri-
11 tion, and Forestry of the Senate;

12 “(B) the Committee on Environment and
13 Public Works of the Senate;

14 “(C) the Committee on Agriculture of the
15 House of Representatives;

16 “(D) the Committee on Natural Resources
17 of the House of Representatives; and

18 “(E) the Government Accountability Of-
19 fice.”.

20 **SEC. 8205. STEWARDSHIP END RESULT CONTRACTING**
21 **PROJECTS.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title VI of the Healthy Forests
23 Restoration Act of 2003 (16 U.S.C. 6591) (as amended
24 by section 8204) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
25 lowing: